

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 14, 15, 17, 19 and 21 as follows.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (previously presented) A damper comprising:
 - a pressure tube forming a working chamber;
 - a reservoir tube disposed around said pressure tube, said reservoir tube forming a reservoir chamber between said pressure tube and said reservoir tube;
 - a base valve assembly disposed between said working chamber and said reservoir chamber, said base valve assembly comprising:
 - a valve body defining a fluid passage, said valve body defining a first supporting member, a second supporting member disposed radially inward from said first supporting member and a third annular supporting member disposed between said first and second supporting members, said third annular supporting member defining an annular support surface;
 - a valve disc disposed adjacent said valve body, said valve disc abutting said first and second supporting members, a clearance being formed between said valve disc and said entire annular support surface of said third annular supporting member.
2. (previously presented) The damper according to Claim 1 wherein said first and second supporting members are annular in shape.

3. (original) The damper according to Claim 2 further comprising a biasing member for urging said valve disc towards said valve body.
4. (original) The damper according to Claim 1 further comprising a biasing member for urging said valve disc towards said valve body.
5. (original) The damper according to Claim 1 wherein said clearance is approximately .10 millimeter.
6. (original) The damper according to Claim 1 wherein each of said first, second and third supporting members comprises a land formed on said valve body.
7. (previously presented) The damper according to Claim 6 wherein said first and second supporting members are annular in shape.
8. (original) The damper according to Claim 7 further comprising a biasing member for urging said valve disc towards said valve body.
9. (original) The damper according to Claim 7 wherein said clearance is approximately .10 millimeter.
10. (original) The damper according to Claim 6 further comprising a biasing member for urging said valve disc towards said valve body.

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11. (original) The damper according to Claim 6 wherein said clearance is approximately .10 millimeter.

12. (previously presented) A damper comprising:

a pressure tube forming a working chamber;

a piston disposed within said working chamber, said piston dividing said working chamber into an upper working chamber and a lower working chamber, said piston defining a first supporting member, a second supporting member disposed radially inward from said first supporting member and a third annular supporting member disposed between said first and second supporting members, said third annular supporting member defining an annular support surface;

a valve disc disposed adjacent said piston, said valve disc abutting said first and second supporting members, a clearance being formed between said valve disc and said entire annular support surface of said third annular supporting member.

13. (previously presented) The damper according to Claim 12 wherein said first and second supporting members are annular in shape.

14. (currently amended) The damper according to Claim 13 further comprising a biasing member for urging said valve disc towards said ~~valve body~~ piston.

15. (currently amended) The damper according to Claim 12 further comprising a biasing member for urging said valve disc towards said ~~valve body~~ piston.

16. (original) The damper according to Claim 12 wherein said clearance is approximately .10 millimeter.

17. (currently amended) The damper according to Claim 12 wherein each of said first, second and third supporting members comprises a land formed on said ~~valve body~~ piston.

18. (previously presented) The damper according to claim 17 wherein said first and second supporting members are annular in shape.

19. (currently amended) The damper according to Claim 18 further comprising a biasing member for urging said valve disc towards said ~~valve body~~ piston.

20. (original) The damper according to Claim 18 wherein said clearance is approximately .10 millimeter.

21. (currently amended) The damper according to Claim 17 further comprising a biasing member for urging said valve disc towards said ~~valve body~~ piston.

22. (original) The damper according to Claim 17 wherein said clearance is approximately .10 millimeter.